

The Tall Ships Races Magellan-Elcano Series 2021 Leg 2 - Lisbon to Cadiz Report

This was a very interesting race. We all knew it was going to be “slow,” but at least we had pretty constant wind for the entire race. There were not going to be many places to make moves against anyone, so it was important to look for opportunities and as always minimize errors.

I had one last opportunity to make a move for the podium when we made the final turn toward Sao Vicente. I was concerned that if I went too far, I would never catch GREATSKUA, and would be in a constant dual with elbetico. I was sitting in 5th place (of the top 5 eventual finishers), and knew that if I didn't do something then, it would basically be a parade to the finish. Below in the screenshot, I took after I completed the race, it shows my gybe a couple minutes earlier than the boats in front of me. I think this decision saved me additional distance, and put me in striking range of Mirek for second. Unfortunately, he schooled me, as he has so many times, on how positioning above your competitor puts you in the driver's seat on long runs.

I also have a screenshot of the Log showing the differences in distance traveled. In a boat as slow as this one, I think it is even more important to balance speed and distance to place in a strong position. This a pretty small difference, but every little bit is magnified in Tall Ships.



Thanks again to everyone for such a challenging race. Congratulations to Olev, WRMirekd and all the finishers for such a fine race.

Doug/FreyjaUSA